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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): T. SHINTANI, et al  
Serial No.: 10/073,014  
Filed: February 12, 2002  
For: INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM  
Group: 2651  
Examiner:

**RECEIVED**

**APR 16 2002**

**Technology Center 2600**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 12, 2002

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the original specification with the attached Substitute Specification.

**IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:**

Please amend the abstract of the disclosure as follows: